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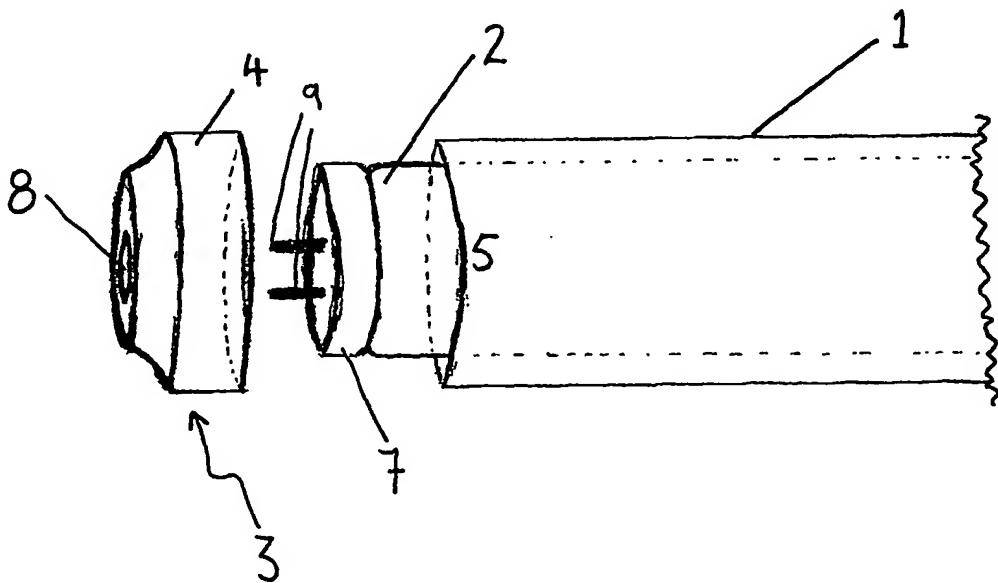
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(54) Title: PHOSPHORESCENT LIGHT COVER OR COATING



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(57) Abstract: The invention relates to phosphorescent light covers (1) or coatings that, following illumination from a light source (2) will luminesce over a period of time after illumination from the light source has ceased. A phosphorescent light covering (1) or coating is adapted to be retained or located on or about a light source (2), the cover (1) or coating comprising a base material and one or more phosphorescent compounds. The cover (1) may be in the form of a sleeve (1) adapted to encompass a fluorescent globe (2), part or all of which allows light transmission, the light cover (1) further comprising friction fit end pieces (3) having an aperture (8) through which connection pins (9) may penetrate.

PHOSPHORESCENT LIGHT COVER OR COATING.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

5 The present invention relates to phosphorescent light covers and coatings and in particular to light covers and coatings that following illumination from a light source will luminesce over a period of time after illumination from the light source has ceased. The invention also relates to processes of producing phosphorescent light covers and coatings.

10 BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Modern homes, businesses and public buildings are extremely reliant upon electricity for light generation. This reliance can become problematic and potentially hazardous in situations where building security or occupant safety is threatened. For example, in the 15 case of a fire, an explosion, earthquake or other natural disaster or in the case of attack by armed forces, terrorists, rioters or thieves it may well be the case that the building electrical supply is either deliberately or accidentally disconnected. Although modern building codes require a level or lighting and directional indication to assist in an evacuation situation, which must be run from an alternative power circuit, such alternative lighting 20 systems are prone to failure during an evacuation situation as a result of poor maintenance, sabotage or the impact of fire, a natural disaster or an explosion. It is also desirable in buildings where cash or other valuables are kept for fail safe security lighting to be provided as a means of deterring and/or detecting security breaches, theft or looting. It is with these issues in mind that the present invention has been conceived.

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The present invention offers a means of providing lighting that may improve building security, offer after hours lighting and assist in the situation where evacuation is required, by relying upon phosphorescence that utilises energy from existing light sources. The present invention may have particular utility as back-up safety lighting in potentially dark 30 and/or dangerous work places and facilities, such as mines, factories, power stations, aircraft, ships, boats or submarines, hospitals, bunkers and the like. The invention may

also be useful as an energy saving device, where the luminescent light is utilised instead of mains electricity to provide low level after-dark or after hours lighting.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

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According to one embodiment of the present invention there is provided a phosphorescent light cover or coating adapted to be retained or located on or about a light source, said cover or coating comprising a base material and one or more phosphor compounds. Part or all of the cover or coating may allow light transmission. Alternatively, part or all of the 10 cover or coating may be light reflective.

The base material may, for example, comprise glass, plastic, a fabric or mesh. The plastic may for example be selected from one or more of polyethylene, polytetrafluoroethylene, polypropylene, poly(4-methylpentene-1), poly(tetrafluoroethylene), polyvinylchloride, 15 polystyrene, polymethylmethacrylate, a polyurethane, a polycarbonate, a polysiloxane or poly(2,6-dimethylphenylene oxide).

In one embodiment of the invention the phosphor compound may be selected from one or more of strontium aluminate, alkaline earth metal sulphide, alkaline earth metal silicate 20 oxide and zinc sulphide. The phosphor compound may for example be europium doped and/or copper activated.

The phosphorescent light cover or coating may take a variety of different forms such as being integral to a light bulb, being in the form of a coating applied to a light bulb, being in 25 the form of a coating applied to a light bulb cover, being in the form of a paint, lacquer, varnish or a polymeric film, being in the form of an incandescent light cover, being in the form of a fluorescent light cover or a light shade, for example. The fluorescent light cover or coating may comprise a lens or may be in the form of a sleeve adapted to encompass at least a lengthwise portion of a fluorescent globe. In the case of a sleeve it is preferred that 30 it encompass substantially all of the fluorescent globe. The sleeve may be provided with friction fit end pieces having an aperture or apertures through which fluorescent globe

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connection pins may penetrate.

According to another embodiment of the invention there is provided a phosphorescent light cover comprising a base material and one or more phosphor compounds, which is in the 5 form of a sleeve adapted to encompass a fluorescent globe, part or all of which allows light transmission, the light cover further comprising friction fit end pieces having an aperture or apertures through which fluorescent globe connection pins may penetrate. The sleeve may preferably be produced from a plastic, such as the plastics recited above, most preferably from polypropylene and the phosphor compound may similarly be selected from 10 those recited above, most preferably strontium aluminate.

According to a further embodiment of the present invention there is provided a process for producing a phosphorescent light cover sleeve adapted to encompass at least a lengthwise portion of a fluorescent globe, comprising the steps of:

15 (a) mixing an extrudable or mouldable plastic with at least one phosphor compound to produce a master batch material;
(b) moulding or extruding the master batch material under appropriate temperature conditions to form a light cover sleeve of desired dimensions. Preferably the master batch material is in the form of pellets or granules and preferably the moulding or 20 extruding is carried out at a temperature of between about 180°C to about 230°C, more preferably between about 200°C to about 210°C and most preferably at about 205°C. Preferably the master batch material is extruded.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

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Fig. 1 shows a perspective view of a phosphorescent light cover according to the invention that is adapted to encompass a fluorescent globe.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

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The reference to any prior art in this specification is not, and should not be taken as, an

acknowledgment or any form of suggestion that that prior art forms part of the common general knowledge in Australia.

Throughout this specification and the claims which follow, unless the context requires 5 otherwise, the word "comprise", and variations such as "comprises" and "comprising", will be understood to imply the inclusion of a stated integer or step or group of integers or steps but not the exclusion of any other integer or step or group of integers or steps.

As indicated above, in the broadest aspect of the present invention there is provided a 10 phosphorescent light cover or coating adapted to be retained or located on or about a light source, which is comprised of a base material and one or more phosphor compounds. By the term "phosphorescent" it is intended to convey that luminescent visible light emanates from the light cover or coating after it has been exposed to light emanating from the light source for a period suitable to excite the phosphor compound, such that the luminescent 15 light is produced for a period of time after the light source has ceased emitting light. While the light covers or coatings according to the invention may emit some fluorescent light at or shortly after the time of light exposure from the light source, the main focus of the invention is in the emission of phosphorescent light that takes place a period of time after exposure to light from the light source has ceased. As will be readily understood the 20 amount of phosphorescent light generated will depend upon the nature and amount of phosphor compound incorporated within the light cover or coating and the intensity and duration of prior light exposure. For example, however, the present inventors have determined that it is possible to produce light covers or coatings according to the invention that will emit a level of phosphorescent light detectable to the human eye in an otherwise 25 darkened room for a period of up to 30 hours after the original light exposure has ceased.

The light covers or coatings according to the invention may take a variety of different forms, but at their simplest level they will include at least a base material and a phosphor compound. The base material provides the substance or matrix of the light cover or 30 coating and may consist of a single compound or component or a mixture or combination of compounds or components. For example, in one embodiment of the invention the base

material comprises glass or plastic which can be extruded, moulded or otherwise shaped to a desired configuration. In another embodiment of the invention the base material may comprise a fibre, woven material or fabric, and it is even possible for the base material to take the form of a mesh of polymer or metallic material or a coating that may be applied in

5 the form of a film or as a liquid, such as a paint, lacquer or varnish. While the nature of the base material can vary widely and can constitute one or many components accordingly, it is important that there is either incorporated therein or applied thereto at least one phosphor compound.

10 Phosphor compounds suitable for use in the present invention are those compounds known to emit phosphorescent light in the visible wavelength range after exposure to a light source. Examples of suitable phosphor compounds, which are all readily commercially available, include the alkaline earth metal sulphides, alkaline earth metal silicate oxides and more particularly zinc sulphide and strontium aluminate. Strontium aluminate is a

15 particularly preferred phosphor compound as it is energised by visible and UV light and it exhibits a significant persistence, that is the period of time over which it emits light following cessation of the energising light exposure. As is well understood in the art some advantages may be obtained by adopting a phosphor compound that is doped with europium, particularly strontium aluminate when europium doped, and it may also be

20 advantageous for the phosphor to include an activator compound, such as a copper activator. A copper activator is commonly adopted in relation to the use of zinc sulphide as a phosphor compound.

The light cover or coating according to the invention, in whatever form it takes, is adapted

25 to be retained or located on or about a light source. The importance of this feature of the invention is that it will allow the light cover or coating to receive direct light emitted from the light source and to thereby maximise energisation of the phosphor compound incorporated therein. The other advantage of being located on or adjacent to the light source is that lights are usually installed in a position to illuminate the intended local area,

30 and in this way the phosphorescent light emanating from the light cover or coating will similarly be directed to an area where lighting is required. The adaptation to be retained or

located in close association with the light source may take a variety of forms, once again depending upon the nature of the light cover or coating. For example, in the case where the coating comprises a film to be applied to a light globe or to an existing light cover or light fitting component, the film may preferably be provided with an adhesive to allow 5 application and retention of the coating. Similarly, in the case of a paint, lacquer or other liquid coating that may similarly be applied directly to a light globe, an existing light cover or light fitting component, the very nature of the paint, lacquer or varnish will allow application and retention of the coating in close association with the light source. As will be well understood by a person skilled in the art it will be important that the base materials, 10 eg. fillers, binders, solvents, etc. included in the coating are compatible with the materials to which they are intended to be applied, and are physically suited to an environment likely to be exposed to relatively high temperature over sustained periods.

In the case of a light cover that is in fact incorporated within light transmissive material of 15 a light bulb, this very nature of the light cover provides its adaptation for close association with the light source. In other embodiments of the invention the light cover may comprise a component of a light fitting, preferably one through which light is intended to be transmitted, which replaces an existing component. Examples of such components include covers, lenses, troffers and shades associated with fluorescent or incandescent light globes. 20 The benefit of this approach to the invention is that the light cover will not require the use of a special fitting or bracket but can utilise existing components of the light fitting to be held in the appropriate location. This may similarly be the case where the light cover or coating is in the form of a reflector or a component of a reflective material (eg. the glass in front of a metallic mirror surface) that is located behind or adjacent to a light source.

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It is also possible, however, for the light cover of the invention to take the form of an additional component that may be added to an existing light fitting. In this instance the cover may take a form that allows it to be placed and retained around or adjacent to the light source, as an additional component. It may be necessary for conventional brackets, 30 clips or fasteners to be utilised to retain the cover, although preferably the cover can be shaped to fit with existing light fitting components such that a specialised clasping or

retaining component is not required.

In preferred embodiments of the invention the light cover or coating is provided in such a manner as to encompass the light source such that the material that comprises the light

5 cover or coating allows light transmission therethrough. This may for example be by virtue of the nature of the material itself or by virtue of the configuration of the material which allows light to pass through gaps or voids. It is also possible for the light cover to take a form such that only a portion of the light emanating from the light source penetrates therethrough. In this context the phosphorescent light cover or coating may form only a

10 partial cover of the light source. This could in effect be achieved either by the physical configuration of the cover or by virtue of the location within the cover of only bands, strips or segments, for example, of the phosphor compound. In the case of a coating therefore the coating may be applied only in strips or bands to the light globe or light fitting component and in the case of an extruded cover this outcome could be achieved by co-

15 extrusion or by assembly of parts some of which include a phosphor compound and some of which do not. Similar approaches may be taken to incorporate indicia such as warnings or directional indicators within the covers or coatings. Standard printing and signage approaches may also be adopted.

20 In a particularly preferred embodiment of the invention, an exemplary form of which is shown in Fig. 1, the phosphorescent light cover comprises a sleeve configured to encompass and contain a fluorescent globe. The sleeve is preferably of cylindrical configuration and may encompass a lengthwise portion of the fluorescent globe, or indeed substantially the full length of the globe. It is also possible for the sleeve to be configured

25 such that it covers only a portion or segment of the circular cross section of the fluorescent globe, although in this case it may be necessary for brackets or fastening means to be provided.

In the preferred embodiment of the phosphorescent light sleeve for a fluorescent globe

30 shown in Fig. 1 the sleeve 1 encompasses substantially the full length of the fluorescent globe 2. In the case of the sleeve 1 shown in Fig. 1 the sleeve is produced from plastic into

which the phosphor compound has been incorporated prior to shaping. As will be readily understood shaping of plastics materials of this type can readily be achieved by utilising conventional extrusion, moulding or blow moulding procedures. For example, plastics utilised in both this and other forms of the invention may comprise one or more of

5 polyethylene, polytetrafluoroethylene, polypropylene, poly(4-methylpentene-1), poly(tetrafluoroethylene), polyvinylchloride, polystyrene, polymethylmethacrylate, a polyurethane, a polycarbonate, a polysiloxane or poly(2,6-dimethylphenylene oxide). The plastics may be thermoplastics or more preferably thermosetting plastics. In a particularly preferred embodiment of the invention polypropylene may be utilised.

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As also shown in Fig. 1 the phosphorescent light cover for a fluorescent tube may include an end piece 3, preferably located at each end of the fluorescent globe. The end piece shown in Fig. 1 is a friction fit component by virtue of the sizing of the rim section 4 which fits snugly over the end section 5 of the sleeve 1. It is also preferred that the end 15 section 3 includes a narrower neck 6 sized to snugly friction fit about the contact end 7 of the fluorescent globe 2. There is also provided one or more apertures 8 within the end piece 3 to allow penetration therethrough of the fluorescent globe connection pins 9.

The benefit of utilising an end piece in conjunction with the fluorescent globe light sleeve 20 is that the sleeve may be maintained at a standardised distance from the fluorescent globe along the length of the globe. This allows temperature within the globe and within the sleeve to be maintained relatively constant throughout, for optimal performance of the globe and optimal energisation and subsequent phosphorescence of the light sleeve. The present inventors have determined that optimal performance is achieved when a blanket of 25 air from between about 0.5mm to about 10mm, preferably between about 0.1mm to about 5mm is provided between the globe and the sleeve. Preferably, the separation is approximately 2mm when the sleeve is configured for use in conjunction with a standard T-8, 1" diameter, 34 watt fluorescent globe, of 48" in length.

30 Naturally, the fluorescent globe light sleeve according to the invention can be configured for use with all types of fluorescent globes, specifically also including the T-12, 1½"

diameter, 40 watt globe type. It will also be understood that phosphorescent light covers or coatings according to the present invention can be adopted in conjunction with all manner of other light sources including incandescent lights of various shapes, fitting types and wattages. As it is the case, especially in conjunction with fluorescent globes, that a low 5 level of ultraviolet radiation is emitted in conjunction with visible white light, and because this ultraviolet radiation is especially useful in energising phosphor compounds, and particularly strontium aluminate, it is useful for optimal energisation of the phosphor for the light cover or coating to be closely adjacent to the light source. Preferably therefore the light cover or coating will be located between about 0.01mm to about 20cm from the 10 light source, most preferably between about 0.5mm and about 10cm, preferably between about 1mm and about 5cm from the light source, for standard domestic and commercial type lighting, depending upon the illumination power.

Phosphorescent light covers according to the present invention that are produced utilising 15 plastic materials can be produced by initially creating a master batch material by mixing of the raw plastic and phosphor compound, optionally with other conventional components. Production of the master batch may result in formation of phosphor compound impregnated plastic in the form of granules or pellets which can then readily be utilised for shaping of the plastic component, for example by extrusion, moulding or blow moulding 20 processes.

In one embodiment the master batch material can be prepared by drying the plastic, which is preferably clear (eg. polypropylene) in a temperature and humidity controlled room. The phosphor compound (eg. strontium aluminate) may be dried under similar conditions. 25 The raw plastic material which is generally provided in a pellet form may be placed in a large mixing container, and optionally a suitable amount of conventional plasticiser agent may be added with stirring using a large paddle. A small amount of water may also be added to improve surface stickiness of the pellets. The pellet mixture may then be mixed, preferably until visual appearance indicates the pellets are coated with plasticiser and/or 30 water. The phosphor compound may then be added in the appropriate amount depending upon the application for which the material is to be used. For example, in standard light

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cover applications, depending upon the intended level of luminescence, the amount of phosphor compound may vary between about 5% to about 40% by weight, however in a preferred embodiment the master batch mixture will comprise approximately 20% by weight of pigment and approximately 80% by weight of plastic, with minor amounts of 5 other possible additives such as plasticiser, water, lubricant, binder, or the like.

Upon adding of the phosphor compound the mixture will be further mixed to coat the pellets with the phosphor compound. This batch mixture is then extruded through a conventional extrusion apparatus, under temperature conditions, approximating those 10 utilised in the subsequent shaping extrusion step. After extrusion, preferably into long thin lengths the extruded pieces may be cut to form fine particles, for example approximately 2.3mm in diameter. Although water may be utilised in the mixing stage of the master batching process, it is preferable during the drying of the plastic and phosphor for substantially all moisture to be removed, as failure to do so at this stage may result in 15 reduced phosphorescence.

In one preferred embodiment of the invention where the master batch material comprises polypropylene and strontium aluminate an extrusion process to form the desired shape, for example the cylindrical sleeve as depicted in Fig. 1, may be adopted at temperatures 20 between about 180°C to about 230°C, preferably between about 200°C to about 210°C, more preferably at about 205°C. In one preferred embodiment of the process heating of the master batch material takes place gradually in four separate chambers with initial heating to approximately 190°C, subsequent transition into two separate 200°C chambers and final heating to 205°C just prior to exposure to the extrusion die head. After extrusion 25 the extruded piece may be cooled and cut to the desired length.

In the case of a light cover such as that depicted in Fig. 1 the end piece will preferably be produced from the same plastics material as the sleeve although the end piece need not allow light transmission and need not have phosphor compound incorporated therewithin.

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It is to be recognised that the present invention has been described by way of example only

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and that modifications and/or alterations thereto which would be apparent to persons skilled in the art, based upon the disclosure herein, are also considered to fall within the spirit and scope of the invention.

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THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. A phosphorescent light cover or coating adapted to be retained or located on or about a light source, said cover or coating comprising a base material and one or more phosphor compounds.
2. The phosphorescent light cover or coating according to claim 1 wherein part or all of the cover or coating allows light transmission.
- 10 3. The phosphorescent light cover or coating according to claim 1 wherein part or all of the cover or coating is light reflective.
4. The phosphorescent light cover or coating according to claim 1 wherein the base material comprises glass.
- 15 5. The phosphorescent light cover or coating according to claim 1 wherein the base material comprises plastic.
6. The fluorescent light cover or coating according to claim 5 wherein the plastic is selected from one or more of polyethylene, polytetrafluoroethylene, polypropylene, poly(4-methylpentene-1), poly(tetrafluoroethylene), polyvinylchloride, polystyrene, polymethylmethacrylate, a polyurethane, a polycarbonate, a polysiloxane or poly(2,6-dimethylphenylene oxide).
- 25 7. The fluorescent light cover or coating according to claim 1 wherein the material is a fabric or mesh.
8. The fluorescent light cover or coating according to claim 1 wherein the phosphor is selected from one or more of strontium aluminate, alkaline earth metal sulphide, alkaline earth metal silicate oxide and zinc sulphide.

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9. The fluorescent light cover or coating according to claim 8 wherein the phosphor is europium doped.

10. The fluorescent light cover or coating according to claim 8 wherein the phosphor is 5 copper activated.

11. The phosphorescent light cover or coating according to claim 2 which is integral to a light bulb.

10 12. The phosphorescent light cover or coating according to claim 2 in the form of a coating applied to a light bulb.

13. The phosphorescent light cover or coating according to claim 2 in the form of a coating applied to a light bulb cover.

15 14. The phosphorescent light coating according to either claim 12 or claim 13 wherein the coating is a paint or a polymeric film.

15 15. The phosphorescent light cover or coating according to claim 2 in the form of an 20 incandescent light cover.

16. The phosphorescent light cover or coating according to claim 2 in the form of a fluorescent light cover.

25 17. The phosphorescent light cover or coating according to claim 2 which comprises a lens.

18. The phosphorescent light cover or coating according to claim 2 in the form of a light shade.

19. The phosphorescent light cover or coating according to claim 2 in the form of a sleeve adapted to encompass at least a lengthwise portion of a fluorescent globe.

20. The phosphorescent light cover or coating according to claim 2 in the form of a
5 sleeve adapted to encompass a fluorescent globe.

21. The phosphorescent light cover or coating according to claim 20 further comprising friction fit end pieces having an aperture or apertures through which fluorescent globe connection pins may penetrate.

10 22. A phosphorescent light cover comprising a base material and one or more phosphor compounds, which is in the form of a sleeve adapted to encompass a fluorescent globe, part or all of which allows light transmission, the light cover further comprising friction fit end pieces having an aperture or apertures through which fluorescent globe connection
15 pins may penetrate.

23. The phosphorescent light cover according to claim 20 wherein the base material is a plastic.

20 24. The phosphorescent light cover according to claim 23 wherein the plastic is selected from one or more of polyethylene, polytetrafluoroethylene, polypropylene, poly(4-methylpentene-1), poly(tetrafluoroethylene), polyvinylchloride, polystyrene, polymethylmethacrylate, a polyurethane, a polycarbonate, a polysiloxane or poly(2,6-dimethylphenylene oxide).

25 25. The phosphorescent light cover according to claim 22 wherein the base material comprises polypropylene.

30 26. The phosphorescent light cover according to claim 20 wherein the phosphor is selected from one or more of strontium aluminate, alkaline earth metal sulphide, alkaline earth metal silicate oxide and zinc sulphide.

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27. The phosphorescent light cover according to claim 20 wherein the phosphor is strontium aluminate.

5 28. A process for producing a phosphorescent light cover sleeve adapted to encompass at least a lengthwise portion of a fluorescent globe, comprising the steps of:

(a) mixing an extrudable or mouldable plastic with at least one phosphor compound to produce a master batch material;

10 (b) moulding or extruding the master batch material under appropriate temperature conditions to form a light cover sleeve of desired dimensions.

29. The process of claim 28 wherein the master batch material is in the form of pellets or granules.

15 30. The process of claim 28 wherein the plastic comprises one or more of polyethylene, polytetrafluoroethylene, polypropylene, poly(4-methylpentene-1), poly(tetrafluoroethylene), polyvinylchloride, polystyrene, polymethylmethacrylate, a polyurethane, a polycarbonate, a polysiloxane or poly(2,6-dimethylphenylene oxide).

20 31. The process according to claim 25 wherein the phosphor is selected from one or more of strontium aluminate, alkaline earth metal sulphide, alkaline earth metal silicate oxide and zinc sulphide.

25 32. The process according to claim 28 wherein the phosphor compound is strontium aluminate.

33. The process according to claim 28 wherein the plastic is polypropylene.

30 34. The process according to claim 25 wherein the phosphor compound is strontium aluminate and the plastic is polypropylene.

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35. The process according to claim 34 wherein the moulding or extruding is carried out at a temperature of between about 180°C to about 230°C.
36. The process according to claim 34 wherein the moulding or extruding is carried out at a temperature of between about 200°C to about 210°C.
5
37. The process according to claim 34 wherein the moulding or extruding is carried out at a temperature of about 205°C.
- 10 38. The process of claim 34 wherein the master batch material is extruded.

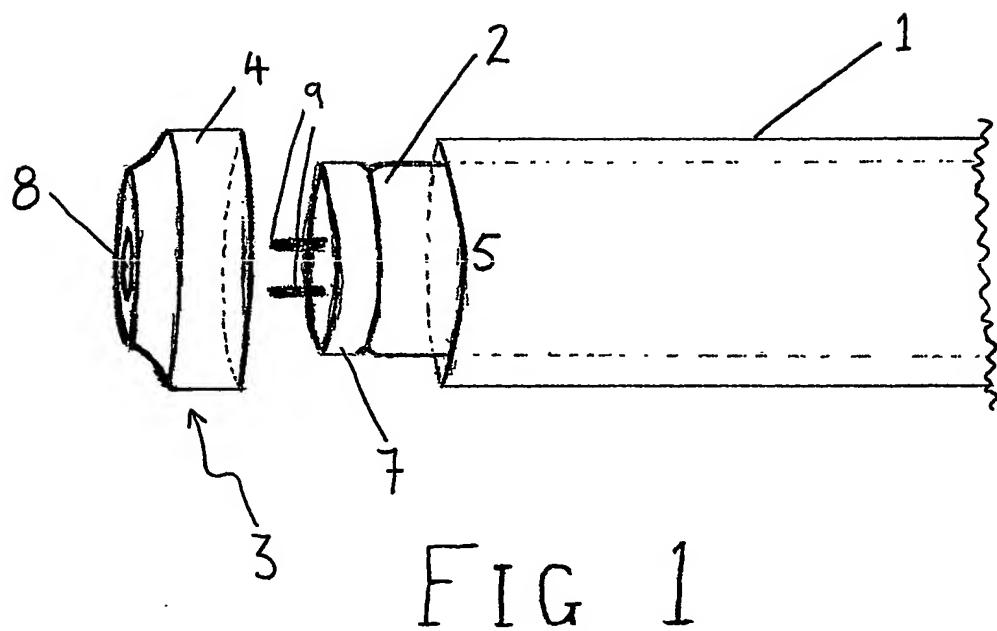


FIG 1

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU03/00695

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER																						
Int. Cl. ⁷ : F21K 2/00, F21V 1/00,3/00																						
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC																						
B. FIELDS SEARCHED																						
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)																						
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched																						
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) DWPI: F21 and (light source or illuminate or lamp or lighting) and (lumines or phosphor) and (cease or step or finish or off or shade or coating or layer or film or screen)																						
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT																						
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages																					
X	EP 856 871 A (NEC CORPORATION) 5 August 1998 See abstract.	1-3,5, 8,9,12,14,16																				
X	GB 2 301 372 A (NICHIA CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES LTD) 4 December 1996 See pages 29 and 30.	1,2,5,6,8-10, 12,14-16,22- 24,26																				
X	EP 1 026 440 A (MATARRODONA MARTINEZ) 9 August 2000 See whole document.	1,2,8,9,12,14, 16																				
X	US 4 245 282 A (SOKOL) 13 January 1981 See whole document.	1,2,5-8,11,15, 16,18-20																				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C																						
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex																						
<p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <table> <tr> <td>"A"</td> <td>document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</td> <td>"T"</td> <td>later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"E"</td> <td>earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date</td> <td>"X"</td> <td>document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"L"</td> <td>document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</td> <td>"Y"</td> <td>document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"O"</td> <td>document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</td> <td>"&"</td> <td>document member of the same patent family</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"P"</td> <td>document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>			"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention	"E"	earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone	"L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art	"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&"	document member of the same patent family	"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		
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"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed																					
Date of the actual completion of the international search 4 July 2003	Date of mailing of the international search report 11 JUL 2003																					
Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized officer SUSAN T. PRING Telephone No : (02) 6283 2210																					

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU03/00695

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	GB 1 491 681 A (O'CONNOR et al) 9 November 1977 See whole document.	1,2,5,6,13-16,18
X	FR 2 241 743 A (MAX) 21 March 1975 See whole document.	1,2,5,13-15,18
X	WO 02/075205 A (BALLIE et al) 26 September 2002 See page 10 last para and the claims.	1,2,4-9,11-16
X	WO 01/79753 A (S.C.JOHNSON &SON, INC) 25 October 2001 See claim 10 and abstract.	1,2,5-8,14,18
X	WO 00/55278 A (BEELE ENGINEERING B.V.) 21 September 2000 See whole document.	1,2,5,8,13-16,28,31
X	US 5 833 349 A (APPLE) 10 November 1998 See whole document.	1,2,5-8,15,16,18,28,30,3 1,33
X	EP 807 958 A (GENERAL ELECTRIC CO) 19 November 1997 See whole document.	1-3,5,6,8-10,12,14

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Information on patent family members

International application No.
PCT/AU03/00695

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report	Patent Family Member		
EP 856 871	NONE		
GB 2 301 372	US 5 859 496	JP 9-050786	DE 196 20 631
EP 1 026 440	WO 99/23414	AU 96302/98	DE 69 81 299
US 4 245 282	NONE		
GB 1 491 681	NONE		
FR 2 241 743	NONE		
WO 02/075205	NONE		
WO 01/79753	US 2001043467	AU 53071/01	EP 1 272 359
WO 00/55278	AU 38437/00	EP 1 169 408	
US 5 833 349	NONE		
EP 807 958	DE 697 16 667	JP 10-050259	US 5 731 659
			END OF ANNEX

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

REC'D 14 SEP 2004

WIPO

PCT

Applicant's or agent's file reference 12238490/MKR	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416).
International Application No. PCT/AU2003/000695	International Filing Date (day/month/year) 4 June 2003	Priority Date (day/month/year) 4 June 2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC Int. Cl. 7 F21K 2/00, F21V 1/00,3/00		
Applicant LUNA GLOW PTY LTD et al		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheet(s).
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
 - I Basis of the report
 - II Priority
 - III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
 - IV Lack of unity of invention
 - V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
 - VI Certain documents cited
 - VII Certain defects in the international application
 - VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 1 December 2003	Date of completion of the report 7 September 2004
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA Email address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Fax number: (02) 6285 3929	Authorized Officer S. T. PRING Telephone No. (02) 6283 2210

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

the international application as originally filed.

the description, pages , as originally filed,
pages , filed with the demand,
pages , received on with the letter of

the claims, pages , as originally filed,
pages , as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19,
pages , filed with the demand,
pages , received on with the letter of

the drawings, pages , as originally filed,
pages , filed with the demand,
pages , received on with the letter of

the sequence listing part of the description:
pages , as originally filed
pages , filed with the demand
pages , received on with the letter of

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language which is:

the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).

the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).

the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

contained in the international application in written form

filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages

the claims, Nos.

the drawings, sheets/fig.

This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

**Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report*

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims 17,21,27-30,32,34-38	YES
	Claims 1-16,18-20,22-26,31,33	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	YES
	Claims 1-38	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-38	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Novelty and Inventive Step

EP 856 871 discloses phosphor coatings layered on the inner surface of a fluorescent lamp as well as many features of the dependent claims. Therefore it discloses all the features of claims 1-3,5,8,9,12,14 and 16, which therefor cannot be considered to be novel or to have an inventive step.

GB 2 301 372 discloses an after glow lamp with a fluorescent layer comprising a long decay phosphor as well as many other features in the dependent claims. Therefore claims 1,2,5,6,8-10, 12,14-16, 22-26 cannot be considered to be novel or to have an inventive step.

EP 1 026 440 discloses a tubular fluorescent lamp with an exterior coating with a pigment of phosphor as well as many of the features defined in the dependent claims. Therefore claims 1,2,8,9,12,14 and 16 cannot be considered to be novel or to have an inventive step.

US 4 245 282 discloses a fluorescent light source with a covering net impregnated with phosphorescent material as well as many of the features defined in the dependent claims. Therefore claims 1,2,5-8,11,15,16 and 18-20 cannot be considered to be novel or to have an inventive step.

GB 1 491 681 discloses a translucent tube with a light at each end and either comprising or having a coating of luminescent material as well as many of the features defined in the dependent claims. Therefore claims 1,2,5,6,13-16 and 18 cannot be considered to be novel or to have an inventive step.

FR 2241743 discloses a control element with a light inside, the control element having a phosphorescent sheet. Therefore claims 1,2,5,13-15 and 18 cannot be said to be novel or to have an inventive step.

WO 02/075205 discloses a light covering with a fluorescent component which is charged from the light element. Therefore claims 1,2,4-9 and 11-16 cannot be said to be novel or to have an inventive step.

WO 01/79753 discloses a decorative cover for a candle made of plastic with a phosphorescent pigment. Therefore claims 1,2,5-8,14 and 18 cannot be said to be novel or to have an inventive step.

WO 00/55278 discloses a coating for a lamp casing with a luminescent pigment. Therefore claims 1,2,5,8,13-16,28 and 31 cannot be said to be novel or to have an inventive step.

US 5 833 349 discloses a lamp shade with its surface coated with a phosphorescent pigment and decorative images. Therefore claims 1,2,5-8,15,16,18,28,30,31 and 33 cannot be said to be novel or to have an inventive step.

EP 807 958 discloses a low pressure mercury vapour discharge lamp with an internal coating of rare earth phosphor layers. Therefore claims 1-3,5,8-10,12 and 14 cannot be said to be novel or to have an inventive step.

Furthermore, the features added by appended claims 17,21,27-30,32,34-38 relate only to conventional manufacturing techniques or are features which are typical in devices of this type and therefore cannot be considered as contributing to patentable ingenuity.

VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

Claims 6-10 appear to be directed a different invention. They define a fluorescent light whereas the remaining claims are directed to a phosphorescent light.

Claims 31 and 34 are process claims dependent on to claim 25 which is not an apparatus claim.